

### INDEPENDENT MORTGAGE BROKERS ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO, operating as CANADIAN MORTGAGE BROKERS ASSOCIATION - ONTARIO

## CODE OF BUSINESS CONDUCT AND ETHICS

### **Policy Statement:**

### Introduction

It is the policy of INDEPENDENT MORTGAGE BROKERS ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO, operating as CANADIAN MORTGAGE BROKERS ASSOCIATION - ONTARIO (the **"Company**") to maintain the highest standard of ethics in its operations and in its relations with its members, suppliers, employees, the government, the media and the public. The Company's reputation with its members and in the community at large is a valued asset and maintaining a reputation of integrity and ethical conduct is integral to the Company's continued success.

The reputation of the Company is ultimately built upon the actions of its employees, officers, and directors. The board of directors of the Company (the "**Board**") has therefore adopted this Code of Business Conduct (the "**Code**") to set forth the standards the Company expects its officers, committee members and directors (collectively referred to herein as "**CMBAO Representatives**") to uphold. The provisions in this Code are mandatory and full compliance is expected of all CMBAO Representatives.

The Board shall be responsible for monitoring compliance with the Code as well as the periodic review and revision thereof. Waivers from the Code can only be granted by the Board or a committee of the Board established for considering waivers and will only be granted in exceptional circumstances. The Code is made up of the following principles. Any CMBAO Representative who has questions regarding the application of a principle should ask questions of the Executive Director.

# CMBAO Representatives must comply with all laws and regulations applicable to the Company's operations.

As a not-for-profit organization, the Company is subject to various laws and regulations. The Company expects that CMBAO Representatives will make a reasonable effort to become familiar with the laws and regulations relevant to their duties and responsibilities and to be vigilant in complying with these laws and regulations. CMBAO Representatives are also expected to comply with all applicable policies of the Company.

The Company will make information concerning applicable laws available to its CMBAO Representatives. If there are any questions with respect to any legal requirement, the matter should be referred to the Executive Director.

## CMBAO Representatives must avoid all situations in which their personal interests conflict or might conflict with the interests of the Company.

CMBAO Representatives should never engage in conduct which is harmful to the Company or its reputation. All CMBAO Representatives have an obligation to be entirely free of conflicting interests when they represent the Company in business dealings or are making recommendations, which could influence the Company's subsequent actions.

In general terms, a conflict of interest will exist where a CMBAO Representative's personal activities, interests or financial affairs, may influence or threaten to influence their judgment in the performance of their duties to the Company. Conflicting interests may be direct or indirect. For example, the interest may be that of the CMBAO Representative, a family member, a relative, or a business enterprise in which any of these individuals have an interest, financial or otherwise. CMBA Representatives are required to read and adhere to CMBA Ontario's Conflict of Interest Policy.

If there is any doubt whether or not a situation is deemed a conflict, the CMBAO Representative must first seek approval from the Executive Director or the Board Chair.

#### CMBAO Representatives must maintain the confidentiality of corporate information.

All CMBAO Representatives must keep confidential, and not use for themselves or others, all information concerning the Company or its business that has not been disclosed to the public, unless such disclosure is authorized by the Executive Director or the Board Chair.

## CMBAO Representatives must ensure that the books and records of the Company are accurate.

The Company takes very seriously the accuracy of its financial records and financial statements. Accuracy and reliability in the preparation of all business records is of critical importance to the decision making process and to the proper discharge of financial, legal and reporting obligations. All business records, expense accounts, invoices, bills, payroll and employee records and other reports are to be prepared with care and honesty. False or misleading entries are not permitted in the books of the Company's business. All corporate assets and liabilities are to be recorded in compliance with the Company's accounting and internal control procedures and with Accounting Standards For Not-for-Profit Organizations (ASNPO).

#### CMBAO Representatives must act with fairness and integrity.

The Company seeks competitive advantages through superior performance, never through unethical or illegal business practices. Stealing proprietary information, possessing trade secret information that was wrongfully obtained or inducing such disclosures by past or present employees of other companies, is strictly prohibited. Each CMBAO Representative should endeavour to respect the rights of and deal fairly with the Company's members, suppliers, competitors and CMBAO Representatives. No CMBAO Representative should take improper advantage of anyone through manipulation, concealment, abuse of proprietary information, misrepresentation of material facts, or any other intentional improper-dealing practice.

In addition, the offering or accepting of bribes, payoffs or kickbacks made directly or indirectly to obtain an advantage in a commercial transaction and the offering of gifts, gratuities, entertainment or other similar payments, except as permitted by CMBAO policy, are also strictly prohibited.

# CMBAO Representatives must provide an environment free of discrimination and harassment.

The Company is committed to providing an environment free of discrimination and harassment based on race, sex, sexual orientation, colour, national or ethnic origin, religion, marital status, family status, age or disability. Harassment may occur in a variety of ways and may, in some circumstances, be unintentional. Regardless of intent, such conduct is not acceptable and may also constitute a violation of applicable laws.

# CMBAO Representatives have the obligation to report any violation of laws or this code of business conduct.

Each CMBAO Representative must report any violation of law, the Code or any other internal policy of the Company. In most cases, the CMBAO Representative should report his or her concern to the Executive Director. However, if the CMBAO Representative considers that the Executive Director is not the appropriate individual to address the matter, or if the Executive Director is not dealing with the issues raised in an appropriate manner, the CMBAO Representative should report the matter to the Board Chair.

# CMBAO Representatives should use the Internet access provided by the Company only for business-related purposes.

The Company provides its CMBAO Representatives with access to the internet for business purposes. These purposes included researching and downloading business-related information and files. Internet use must be conducted in a professional manner, (i.e.; accessing Internet sites containing obscene or otherwise material is prohibited). In addition, CMBAO Representatives must be vigilant to ensure network security is maintained.

### Acceptance:

I hereby accept this confirmation of understanding this Policy and agree to be bound by its terms.

Signature

Witness

Name:

Name:

Date:

Date: